GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2595
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000
PRICE OF COTTON
ANANDRAO ADSUL

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that large scale of cotton has been imported recently at a 20 percent price lower than the domestic market price;

(b) if so, whether influx of imported cotton has affected the domestic market and also cotton growers; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of domestic market/cotton growers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES

(SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) According to figures available with the Government, during April-December, 1999, import of cotton(including cotton waste) is 1,46,000 tonns against 44,000 tonns during April to December, 1998. This indicates that import has increased. Domestic prices of cotton vis-Ã -vis international prices are one of the important parameters for import of cotton.

(b)&(c) Though, availability of cotton in the domestic market is adequate, imports of cotton with certain quality specifications take place on need basis, which forms an estimated 4% of cotton consumption in a year in the country. However, still to protect the interest of cotton growers, the Government has put in operation the Minimum Support Price(MSP) as a price stabilising factor, thereby ensuring remunerative returns to the cotton growers.